

House Republican Press Release

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Rep. Tymniak Announces New Laws Taking Effect Oct. 1



Laws against underage drinking, Internet identity theft impose tougher penalties

News Connecticut state laws against underage drinking, Internet identity theft and a number of other issues take effect October 1, 2006, according to State Rep. Cathy

Tymniak, R-133.

Rep. Tymniak said the Connecticut State Library has compiled a complete list which is available at www.cslib.org/06actsOct.htm. Rep. Tymniak said the state legislative session ended in May, but most laws adopted during the session become effective October 1 to allow affected individuals and agencies some time to become accustomed to them.

For instance, a new law imposes penalties for adults who allow teen drinking parties in their homes. Tougher penalties take effect for sending phony e-mails seeking people's financial information, and a new law protects news media and confidential news sources.

Also, one new law regulates the use of open space land and another reduces nitrogen effluent into Long Island Sound.

One new law encourages lowering the flag to half staff to honor the military, another protects jobs and finances of national guard personnel who are called up to deal with state emergencies, and yet another redefines "emergency" and "major disaster" to help the state and localities obtain federal disaster relief funds.

The legislature also adopted new legislation concerning health insurance coverage for breast cancer screening.

A new law strengthens state regulation of amusement rides.

Another strengthens the confidentiality of telephone records.

Rep. Tymniak noted that several new laws already are in effect, such as a sales tax exemption on home weatherization and energy saving products including programmable thermostats, window film, caulking, window and door strips, insulation, water heater blankets, and a whole range of other heating products and systems. Those products are exempt from the six percent state sales tax from June 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007.

Rep. Tymniak serves the 133rd Assembly District of Fairfield and Westport in the state House of Representatives.